

## Supplementary Material

### **What can echolocation recordings reveal about the species composition, habitat specificity and structure of mangrove bat communities in the Northern Territory?**

*N. L. McKenzie*<sup>A,\*</sup>, *R. D. Bullen*<sup>B</sup> and *D. J. Milne*<sup>C</sup>

<sup>A</sup>Western Australian Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Bentley 6983, Australia

<sup>B</sup>43 Murray Drive, Hillarys, 6025, Australia

<sup>C</sup>Northern Territory Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security, Palmerston, 0831, Australia

\*Correspondence to: Email: [norman.mckenzie1@gmail.com](mailto:norman.mckenzie1@gmail.com)

1 **Appendices (electronic)**

2 **Appendix 1.** Bioregional descriptions (see Fig. 1).

3 DAC (Darwin Coastal): Has a mesic monsoon climate (1700 mm rainfall annually) and, like the  
4 ARC and TWI, is characterised by gently undulating plains on lateritised Cretaceous sandstones and  
5 siltstones mantled by sandy and loamy red and yellow earths and siliceous sands supporting tall open  
6 eucalypt forest with a shrub and cane grass understorey. Extensive, diverse floodplains are associated  
7 with the lower reaches of the many large river systems, with riparian vegetation fringing the rivers and  
8 substantial areas of rainforest. Extensive mangrove forests occur in embayments and river mouths, and  
9 fringing the coast.

10 TWI (Tiwi-Cobourg): In the most mesic part of the study area (2000 mm rainfall annually), and  
11 comprises thinly sand- and earth-mantled plains on lateritised Cretaceous sandstone plateau supporting  
12 eucalypt tall open forest over hummock and tussock grasses with rainforest patches. Some escarpments  
13 and coastal cliffs are present, along with extensive coastal beach dune systems supporting scrub, strand  
14 woodlands of sheoak, coastal saline marshes and extensive mangrove forest.

15 ARC (Arnhem Coast): With TWI, the most mesic bioregion in the study area (2000 mm rainfall  
16 annually). It includes sub-humid near-coastal as well as upland landscapes that are mainly expressed as  
17 coastal plains, gently undulating plains and low plateaux on lateritised Cretaceous sandstones and  
18 siltstones, as well as rugged, deeply incised, rocky, plateau surfaces dissected by gorges. The plains  
19 separate the uplands from the coast in places; they comprise extensive coastal dune systems, saline flats,  
20 wetlands and floodplains. Mangrove forests are common along the coast, particularly in sheltered  
21 embayments and estuaries. The wider landscapes of the uplands support grasslands, savannas, tree  
22 steppes, woodlands and open forests on: (1) red and yellow earths that mantle the undulating hill-  
23 country and broad valleys, and (2) rugged boulder country mainly associated with extensive quartz  
24 sandstone strata that are discontinuously mantled by skeletal soils. The uplands are drained by  
25 seasonally active, flood dominant river systems with many permanent pools fringed by tall trees that  
26 form riparian forests or woodlands.

27 GUC (Gulf Coastal): Has a mesic monsoon climate, and receives 700 to 900 mm per annum. Its  
28 landscapes are dominated by gently undulating plains of red earths and shallow gravelly sand that  
29 support eucalypt woodlands over a tussock grass and spinifex understorey, with large meandering rivers  
30 and seasonal coastal swamps. Rugged areas on Proterozoic sandstone and Tertiary sediments occur in  
31 some places; coastal areas are not rocky, except on the Pellew Islands. The coastal plains support  
32 samphire shrublands and beach dunes. Mangrove forests are extensive along the coast, and fringe river  
33 estuaries for up to 10 km inland.

34 CEA (Central Arnhem): Has a mesic monsoon climate (1900 to 2000 mm rainfall annually). It  
35 comprises gently sloping upland terrain and low hills on Cretaceous sandstones, siltstones and lateritised

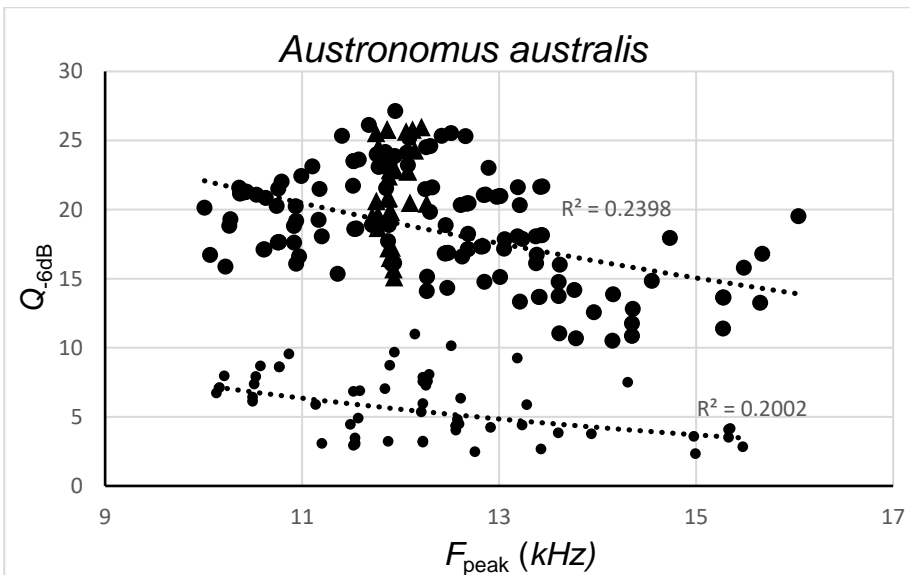
36 Tertiary material. These are discontinuously mantled by yellow earthy sands and shallow stony sands  
37 supporting open forests to woodlands of Darwin Woollybutt and Darwin Stringybark with a tussock and  
38 cane grass understorey. The uplands include some areas of rugged, deeply incised, rocky plateaux  
39 dissected by gorges, and are drained by seasonally active, flood dominant river systems with many  
40 permanent pools fringed by tall trees that form riparian forests or woodlands. Coastal areas comprise  
41 coastal dune systems, saline flats, wetlands and floodplains. Mangrove forests are common along the  
42 coast, particularly in sheltered embayments and estuaries.

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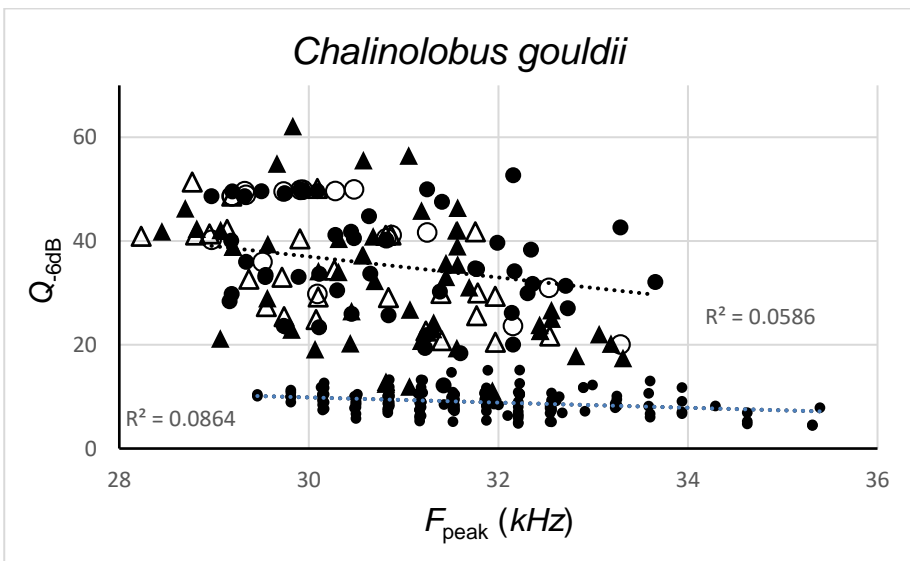
45 **Appendix 2.** Species  $F_{\text{peak}}$  ( $= F_{\text{peakC}}$ , kHz) versus  $Q_{-6\text{dB}}$  plots of search-mode Anabat2 (zero-crossed)  
46 and full spectrum (FS) pulses emitted by Northern Territory, Kimberley and Pilbara bats (see final  
47 column in Table 6) in free flight at night. The small black dots are from our Anabat2 reference library  
48 and the small hollow triangles in the *Saccolaimus saccolaimus* plot are DFA-classified Anabat2 pulses  
49 (see McKenzie *et al.* 2018). The large solid black circles (Western Australian) and triangles (Northern  
50 Territory) are pulses from full spectrum reference recordings; the large hollow symbols are pulses from  
51 the full spectrum recordings that have been identified using reference library data. Individual pulses are  
52 displayed here, rather than the sequence averages plotted in Figs 2 and 3. Summary statistics for species  
53  $F_{\text{peak}}$  and  $Q_{\text{FS}}$  are provided in Appendix 3.

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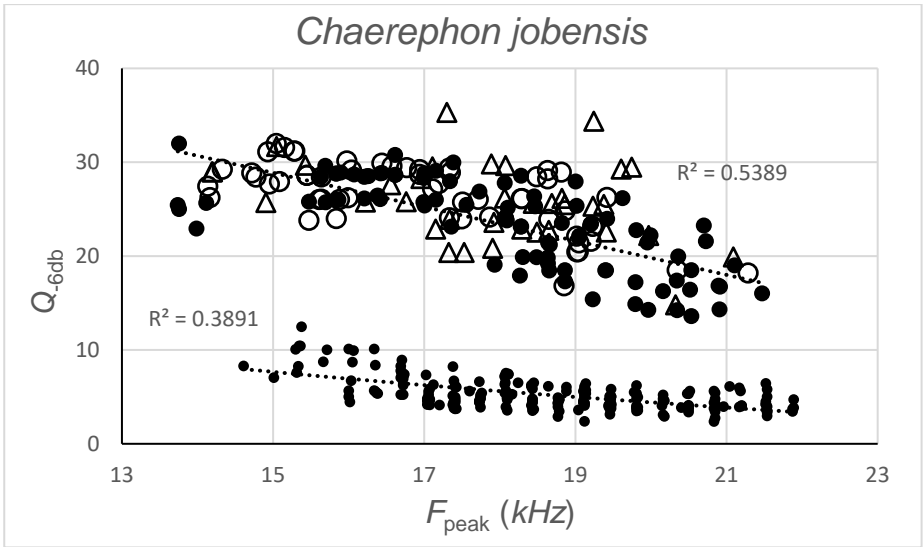
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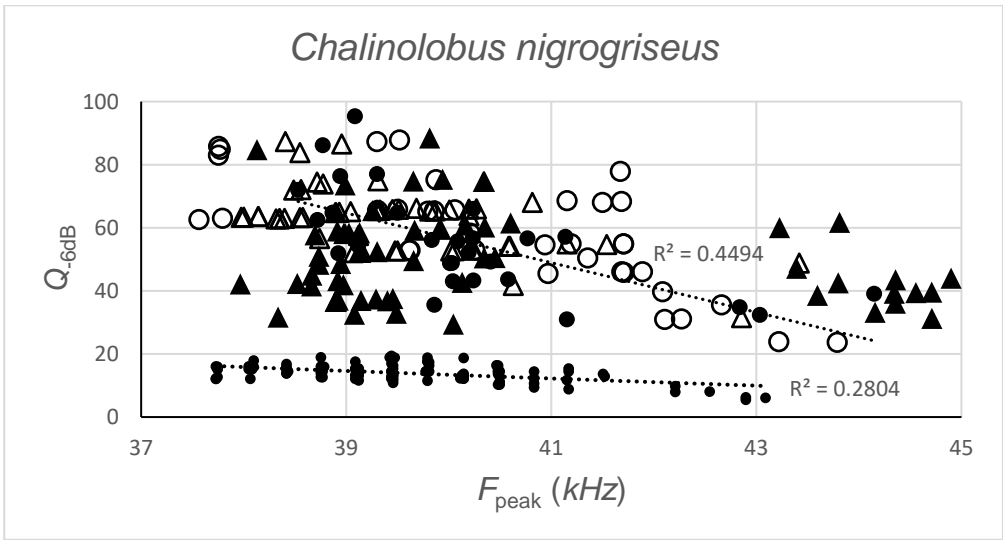


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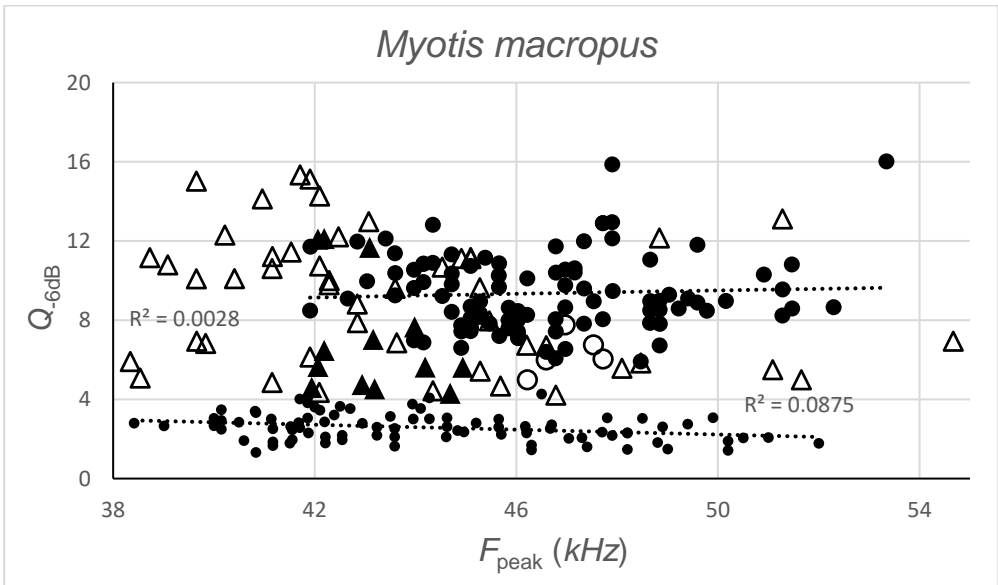
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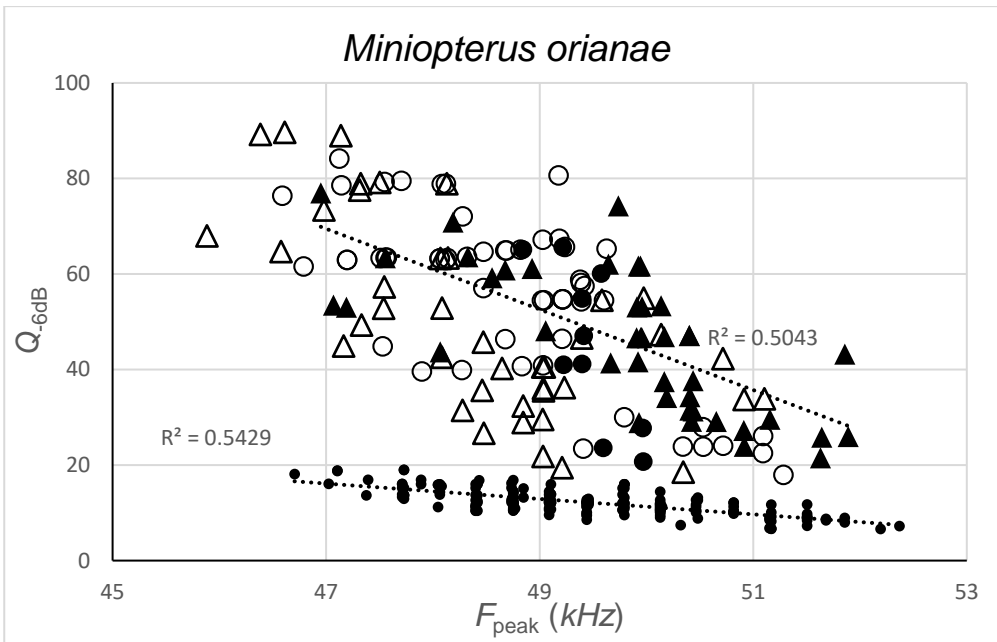
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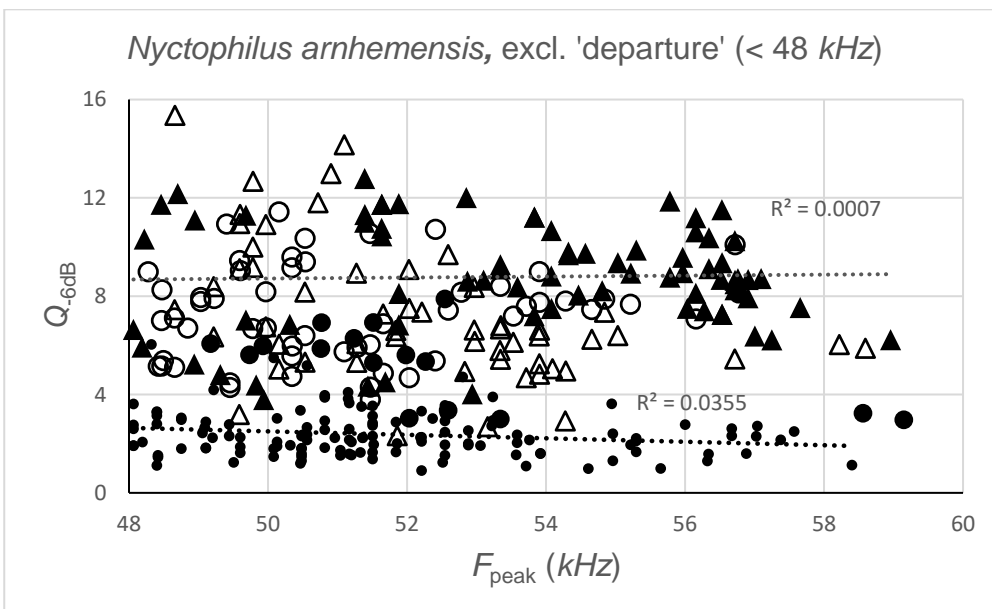


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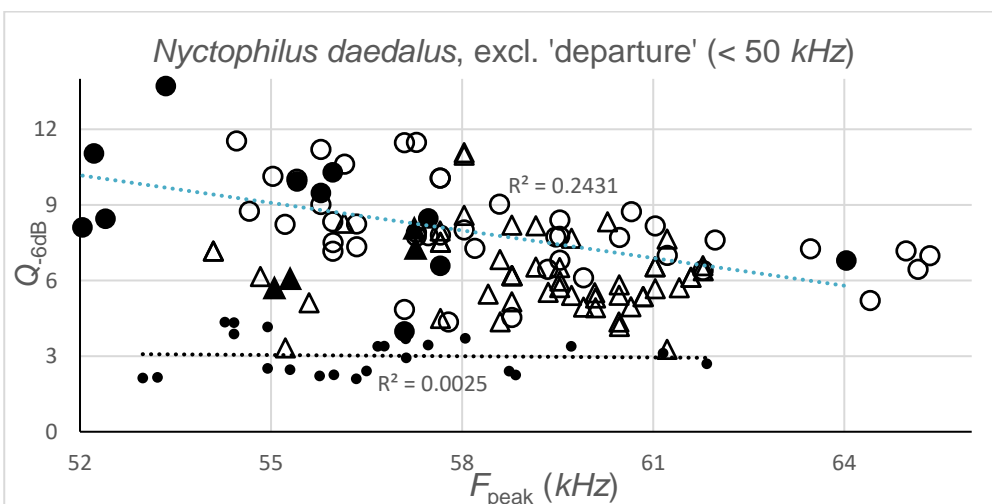
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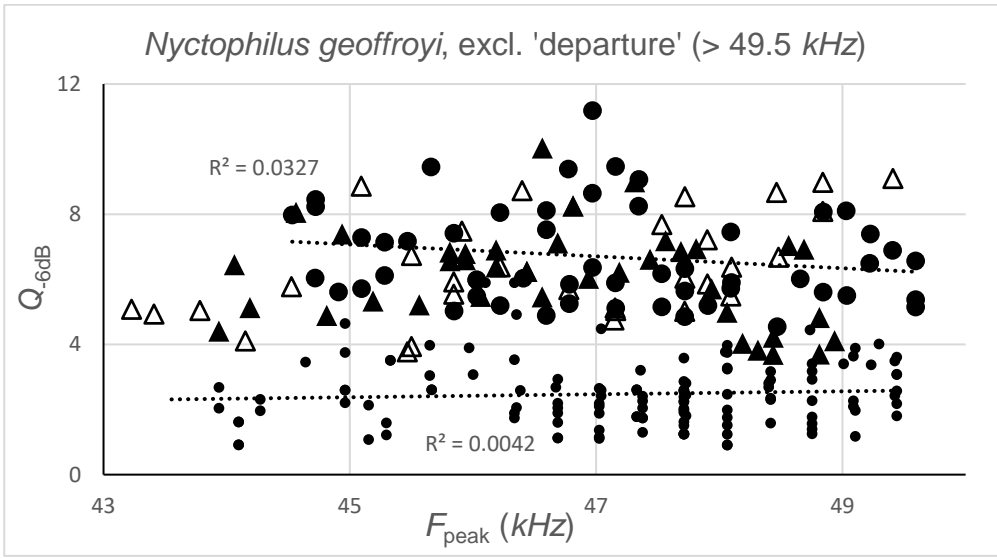
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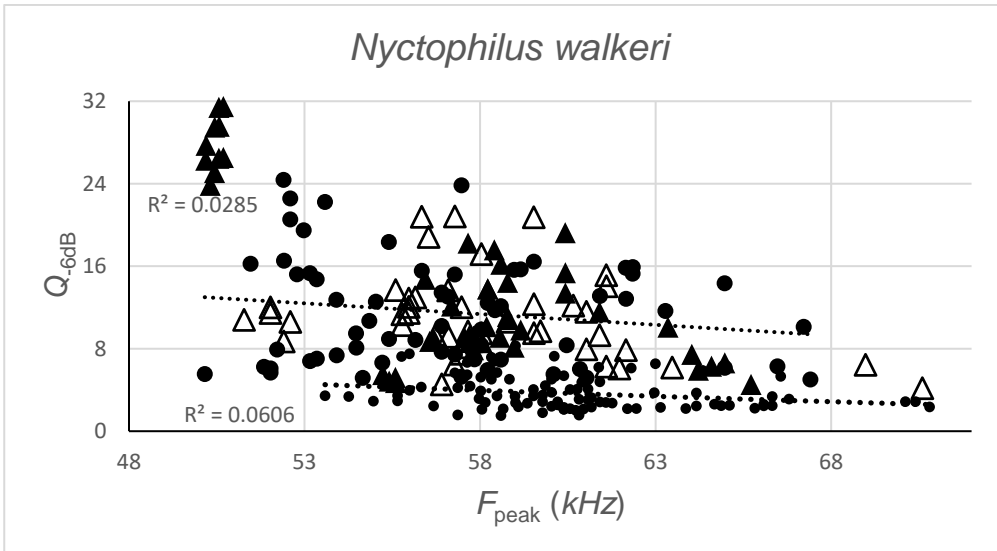
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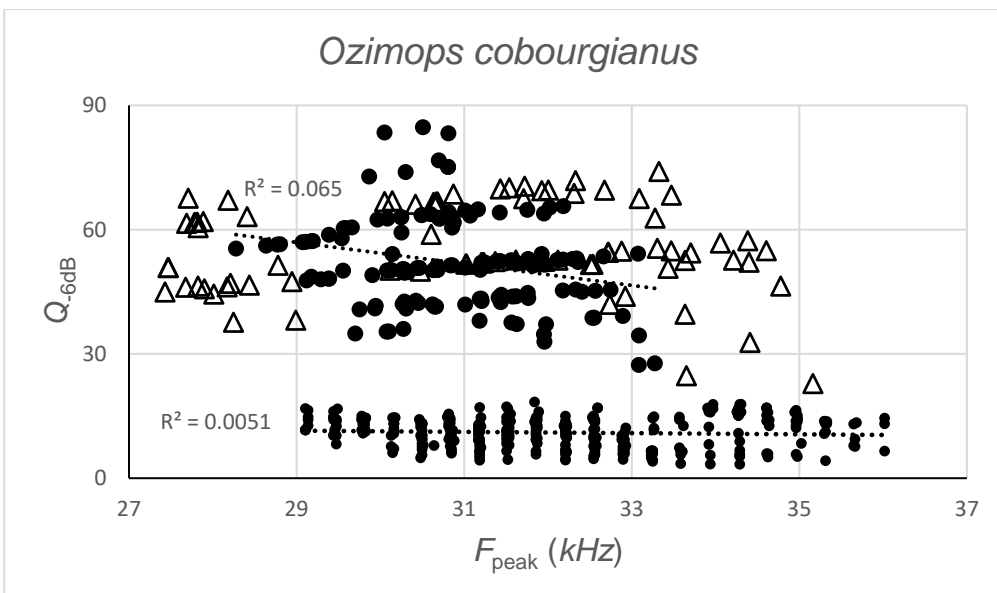
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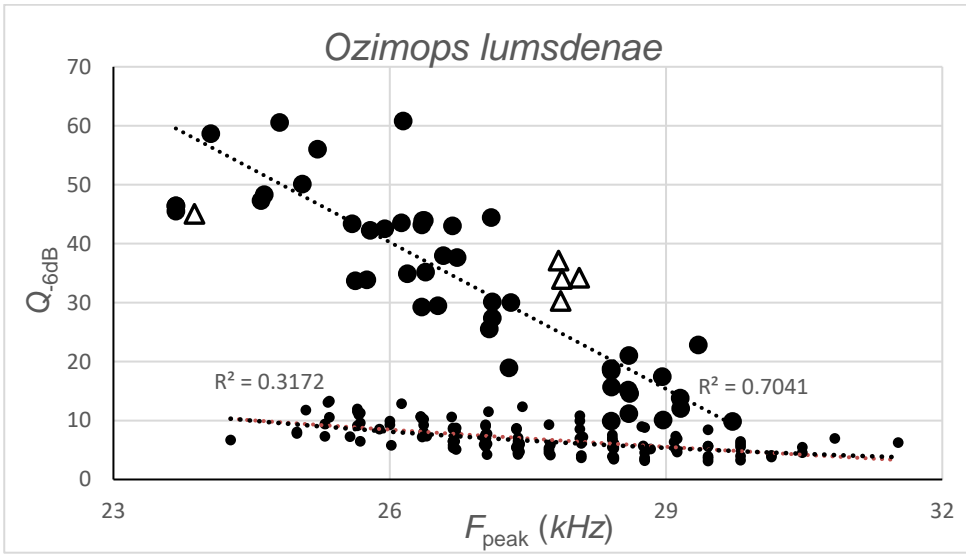
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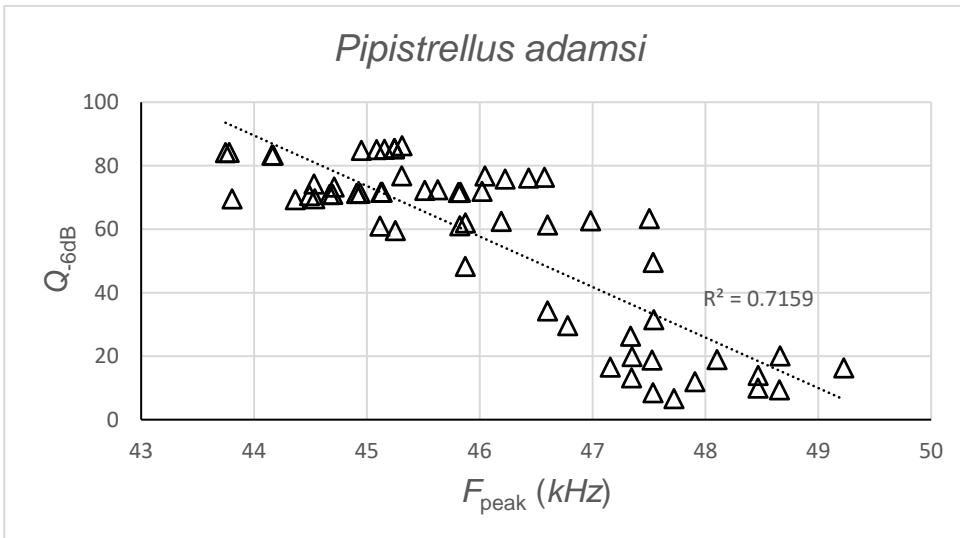
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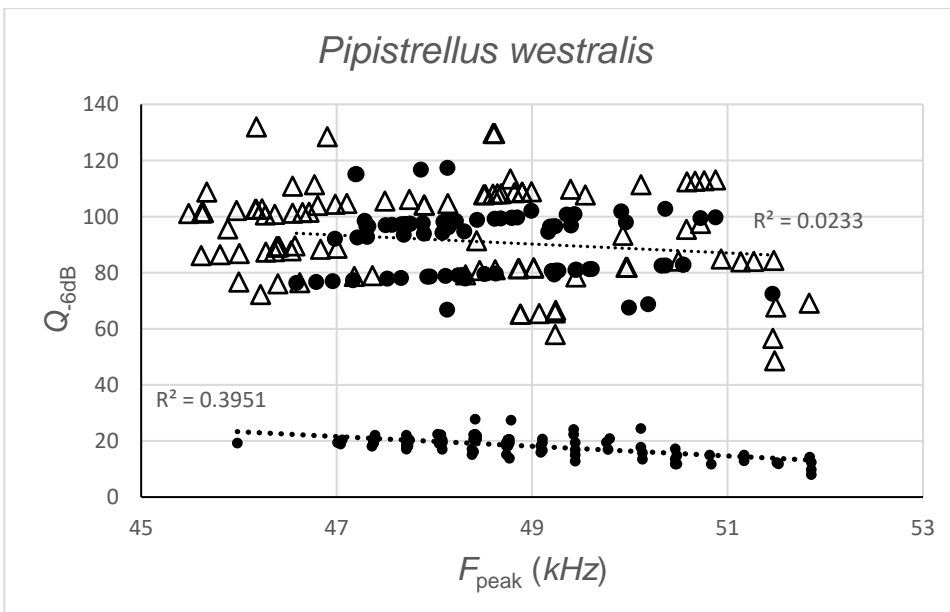
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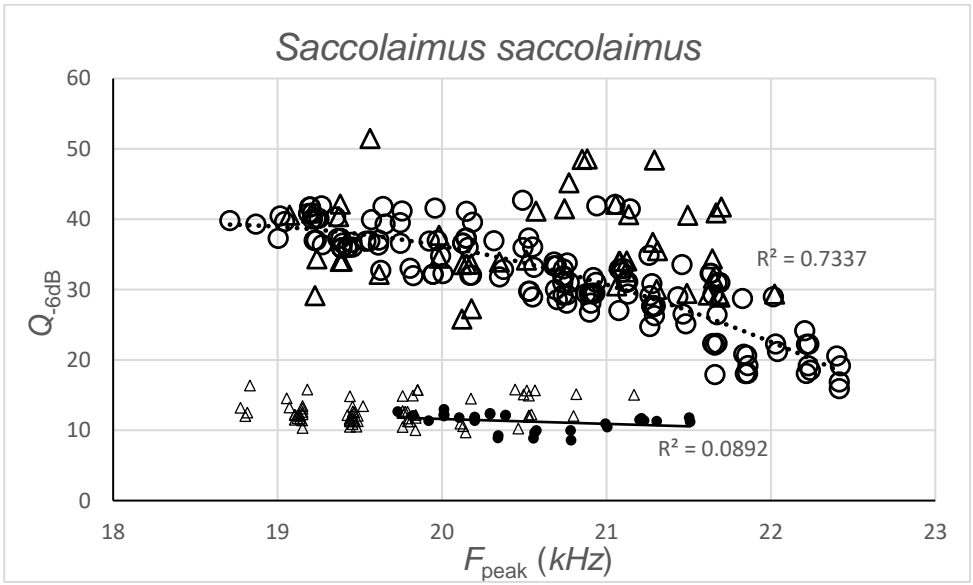
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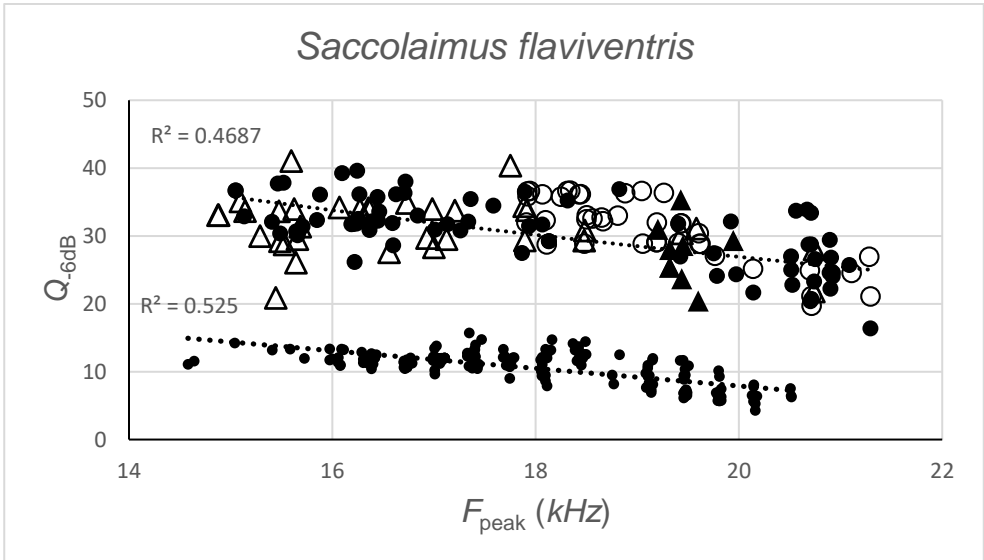


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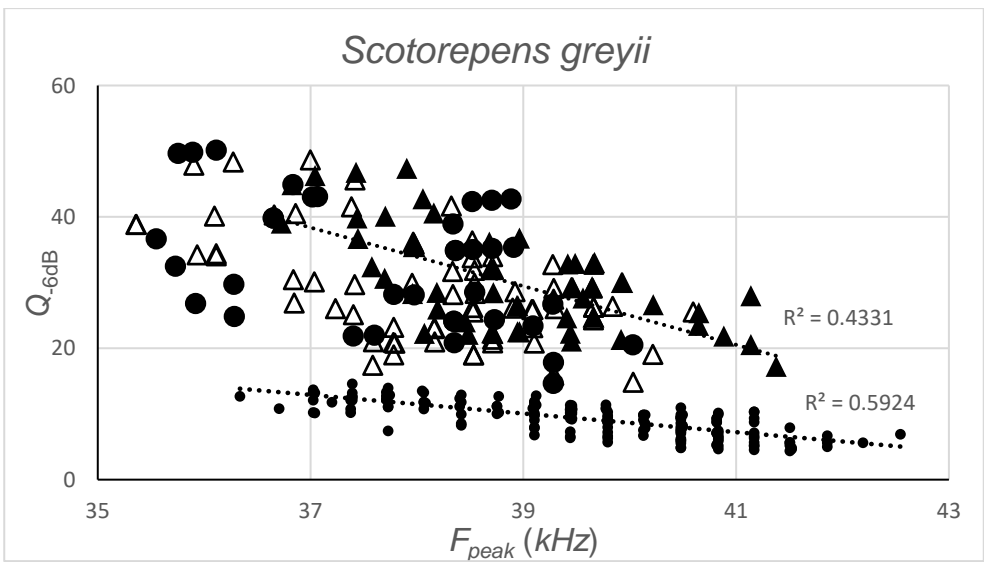
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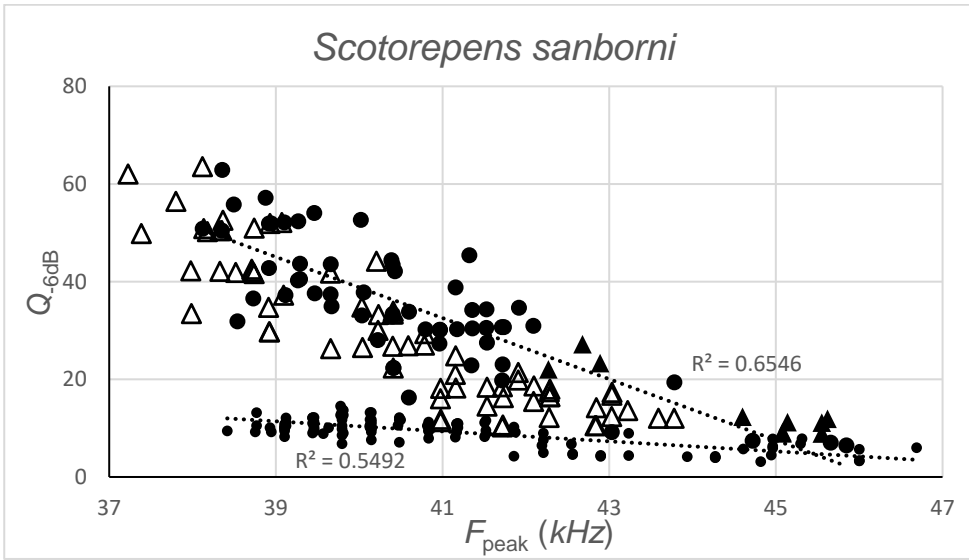
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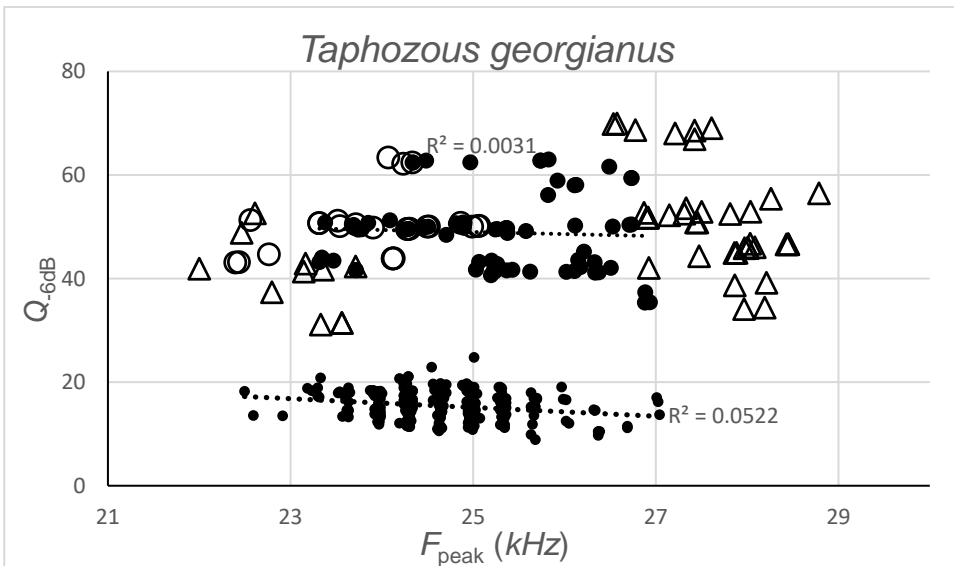
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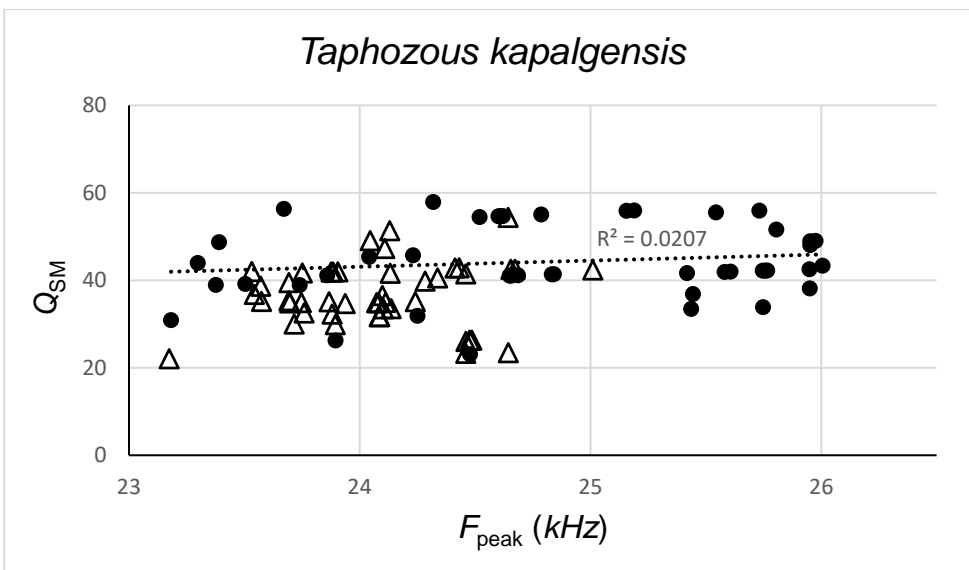
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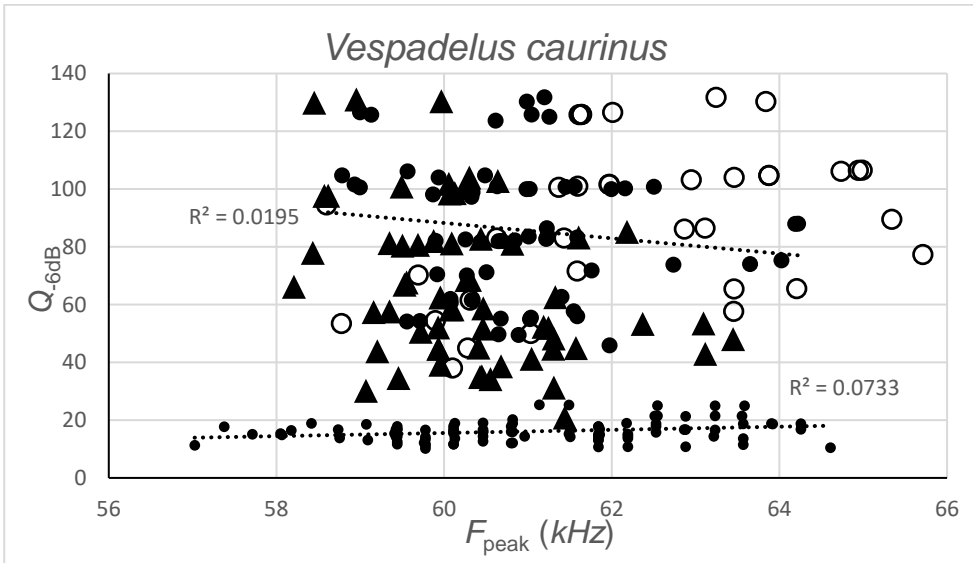
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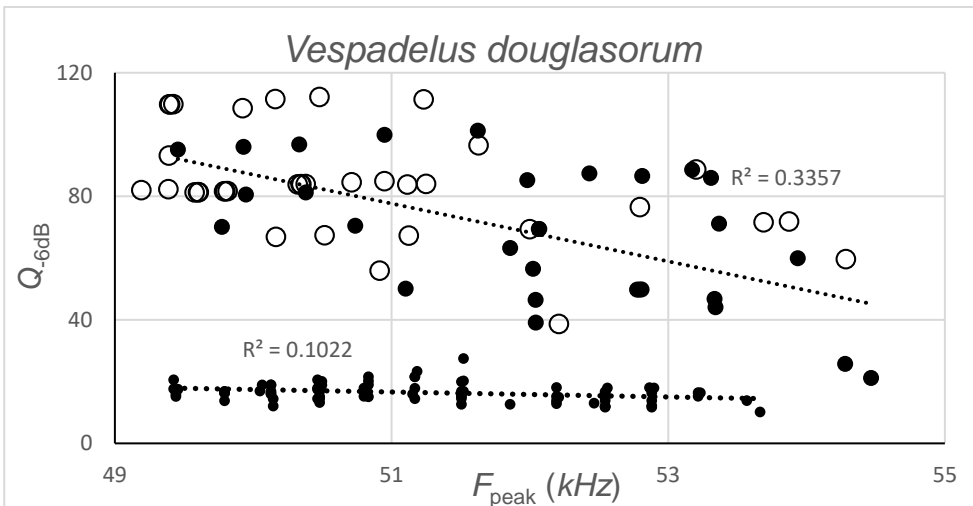
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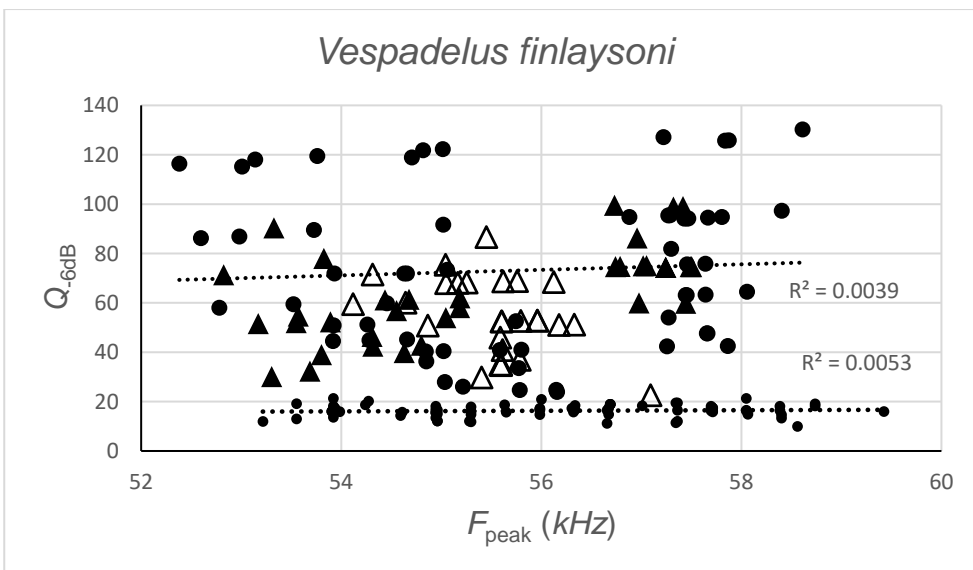
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**Appendix 3.** Pulse peak frequency ( $F_{\text{peak}}$ , kHz) and full spectrum fineness-of-tuning ( $Q_{-6\text{dB}}$ ) values derived from search-mode echolocation sequences recorded on the Northern Territory coast, near Pine Creek and in tropical Western Australia (average, *S.E.M.*, *n*). Reference as well as ‘identified’ sequence data are included.

*n* = number of pulse sequences. The  $F_{\text{peak}}$  averages exclude Nyctophilinae ‘departure’ calls (McKenzie and Bullen 2012), but the molossid averages include values for ‘un-cambered wing’ sequences (Bullen *et al.* 2013). Student t-test results (2-tailed, unequal variances): \*  $P. < 0.05$ , \*\*  $P. < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $P. < 0.001$ . Pop<sup>n</sup>: data from WA’s Kimberley (K) and Pilbara (P) populations are merged for some species.

	$F_{\text{peak}}$ NT	$F_{\text{peak}}$ WA	$Q_{-6\text{dB}}$ NT	$Q_{-6\text{dB}}$ WA	Pop <sup>n</sup>
<i>Aa</i>	11.9 (0.1, 7)	12.5 (0.2, 59)**	21.4 (0.8, 7)	19.1 (0.6, 32)*	K, P
<i>Cg</i>	30.7 (0.3, 18)	31.5 (0.2, 46)*	32.6 (2.2, 18)	36.4 (2.0, 18)	K, P
<i>Cj</i>	17.6 (0.4, 11)	17.8 (0.2, 65)	25.9 (0.7, 11)	24.9 (0.8, 20)	K, P
<i>Cn</i>	40.1 (0.4, 30)	40.5 (0.4, 16)	57.0 (2.2, 30)	55.2 (3.6, 16)	K
<i>Ma</i>	42.9 (1.0, 13)	46.6 (0.6, 17)**	9.8 (1.2, 13)	9.4 (0.3, 17)	K
<i>Ms</i>	49.1 (0.3, 21)	48.8 (0.3, 13)	48.5 (3.5, 21)	54.4 (4.6, 13)	K
<i>Na</i>	53.1 (0.4, 29)	51.4 (0.5, 15)	8.0 (0.4, 29)	6.8 (0.5, 15)	K, P
<i>Nd</i>	58.8 (0.3, 12)	58.0 (0.8, 13)	6.1 (0.4, 12)	8.1 (0.5, 13)**	K, P
<i>Ng</i>	46.7 (0.3, 15)	47.2 (0.3, 13)	6.1 (0.3, 15)	6.7 (0.3, 13)	K
<i>Nw</i>	58.0 (1.1, 18)	57.0 (1.0, 14)	12.5 (1.5, 18)	12.0 (1.3, 14)	K
<i>Oc</i>	31.1 (0.5, 26)	31.5 (0.2, 76)	55.6 (1.9, 26)	52.1 (1.3, 32)	K, P
<i>Ol</i>	26.6 (1.3, 3)	27.2 (0.2, 52)	36.8 (4.4, 3)	33.3 (4.0, 12)	K, P
<i>Pa</i>	46.1 (0.3, 16)		55.8 (6.7, 16)		
<i>Pw</i>	48.0 (0.3, 28)	48.6 (0.3, 14)	94.4 (2.1, 28)	90.5 (1.7, 14)	K
<i>Sc</i>	20.7 (0.2, 16)	20.5 (0.2, 24)	37.8 (1.7, 16)	32.7 (1.1, 24)	K
<i>Sf</i>	17.8 (0.5, 15)	18.5 (0.3, 35)	30.1 (0.8, 15)	30.4 (0.7, 35)	K, P
<i>Sg</i>	38.5 (0.2, 31)	37.8 (0.5, 7)	29.7 (1.2, 31)	32.4 (3.0, 7)	K
<i>Ss</i>	40.8 (0.5, 22)	40.7 (0.5, 12)	29.1 (3.2, 22)	34.6 (3.5, 12)	K
<i>Tg</i>	27.0 (0.5, 13)	24.8 (0.2, 23)***	50.1 (2.3, 13)	49.6 (0.9, 12)	K
<i>Tk</i>	24.8 (0.2, 14)	24.9 (0.3, 9)	41.6 (2.0, 14)	44.5 (2.2, 9)	K
<i>Vc</i>	60.3 (0.3, 12)	60.9 (0.2, 48)*	66.3 (6.9, 12)	85.2 (3.8, 20)*	K
<i>Vd</i>		51.4 (0.4, 14)		74.2 (5.2, 14)	K
<i>Vf</i>	55.4 (0.3, 13)	56.0 (0.2, 45)	61.2 (4.6, 13)	73.1 (8.5, 12)	K, P

110 **Appendix 4.** Zoophagic bats comprising the communities of bioregions in tropical North-western Australia, presented according to their foraging strategies.

111 Foraging strategies are defined in ‘Methods’. Bioregion codes: DAC, Darwin Coastal; ARC, Arnhem Coast; GUC, Gulf Coastal; NOK-L, Northern Kimberley

112 landward; NOK-M, Northern Kimberley mangroves; VIB-L, Victoria Bonaparte landward; VIB-M, Victoria Bonaparte mangroves; CEK, Central Kimberley;

113 DAL-L, Dampierland landward; DAL-M, Dampierland mangroves; OVP, Ord Victoria Plains; GSD, Great Sandy Desert; PIL-L, Pilbara landward; PIL-M,

114 Pilbara mangroves; TAN, Tanami Desert; GAS, Gascoyne; CARN-L, Carnarvon Basin landward; CARN-M, Carnarvon Basin mangroves; LSD, Little Sandy

115 Desert. *Th* (*Taphozous hilli* Kitchener) and *Sb* (*Scotorepens balstoni* (Thomas, 1906) are not included in Table 2.

Usual Foraging Strategy	Bioregional Communities																		
	DAC	ARC	GUC	NOK-L	NOK-M	VIB-L	VIB-M	CEK	DAL-L	DAL-M	OVP	GSD	PIL-L	PIL-M	TAN	GAS	CARN-L	CARN-M	LSD
Interceptor	<i>Cj Ol</i>	<i>Cj Ol</i>	<i>Cj Ol</i>	<i>Cj Ol</i>	<i>Cj</i>	<i>Cj Ol</i>	<i>Cj</i>	<i>Cj Ol</i>	<i>Cj Ol</i>	<i>Cj</i>	<i>Cj Ol</i>	<i>Cj Ol</i>	<i>Cj Ol</i>	<i>Cj</i>	<i>Cj Ol</i>	<i>Cj Ol</i>	<i>Cj Ol</i>	<i>Cj</i>	<i>Cj Ol</i>
	<i>Aa</i>					<i>Aa</i>			<i>Aa</i>		<i>Aa</i>	<i>Aa</i>	<i>Aa</i>	<i>Aa</i>	<i>Aa</i>	<i>Aa</i>	<i>Aa</i>	<i>Aa</i>	<i>Aa</i>
Surface	<i>Ha Hs</i>	<i>Ha Hs</i>	<i>Ha Hs</i>	<i>Ha Hs</i>	<i>Ha Hs</i>	<i>Ha Hs</i>	<i>Ha</i>	<i>Ha Hs</i>	<i>Ha</i>	<i>Hs</i>	<i>Ha Hs</i>								
	<i>Hi Ng</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Ng</i>	<i>Ng</i>
	<i>Nd Na</i>	<i>Nd Na</i>	<i>Nd Na</i>	<i>Nd Na</i>	<i>Na</i>	<i>Nd Na</i>	<i>Na</i>	<i>Nd Na</i>	<i>Nd Na</i>	<i>Na</i>	<i>Nd Na</i>		<i>Nd</i>	<i>Na</i>		<i>Nd</i>		<i>Na</i>	
Air Superiority	<i>Ms Ra</i>	<i>Ms Ra</i>	<i>Ms Ra</i>	<i>Ms Ra</i>	<i>Ms Ra</i>	<i>Ms Ra</i>	<i>Ms Ra</i>	<i>Ms Ra</i>	<i>Ms Ra</i>	<i>Ms</i>	<i>Ms</i>		<i>Ra</i>		<i>Ra</i>				<i>Ra</i>
	<i>Cg Cn</i>	<i>Cg Cn</i>	<i>Cg Cn</i>	<i>Cg Cn</i>	<i>Cn</i>	<i>Cg Cn</i>	<i>Cg Cn</i>	<i>Cg Cn</i>	<i>Cg Cn</i>	<i>Cg Cn</i>	<i>Cg Cn</i>	<i>Cg</i>	<i>Cg Cm</i>	<i>Cg<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Cg</i>	<i>Cg</i>	<i>Cg</i>	<i>Cg<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Cg</i>
	<i>Vc Pa</i>	<i>Vc/Vf Pa</i>	<i>Vc/Vf Pa</i>	<i>Vc</i>	<i>Vc</i>	<i>Vc</i>	<i>Vc</i>	<i>Vc</i>	<i>Vc/Vf</i>		<i>Vc/Vf</i>	<i>Vf</i>	<i>Vf</i>	<i>Vf</i>	<i>Vf</i>	<i>Vf</i>	<i>Vf</i>	<i>Vf</i>	<i>Vf</i>
	<i>Sc Pw</i>	<i>Sc Pw</i>	<i>Sc Pw</i>	<i>Sc Vd</i>	<i>Sc Pw</i>	<i>Sc Vd</i>	<i>Sc Pw</i>	<i>Sc Vd</i>	<i>Sc Vd</i>	<i>Sc Pw</i>	<i>Sc Vd</i>								
	<i>Sg Ss</i>	<i>Sg Ss</i>	<i>Sg Ss</i>	<i>Sg</i>	<i>Ss</i>	<i>Sg</i>	<i>Ss</i>	<i>Sg</i>	<i>Sg</i>	<i>Ss</i>	<i>Sg</i>	<i>Sg/Sb</i>	<i>Sg</i>	<i>Ss</i>	<i>Sg/Sb</i>	<i>Sg/Sb</i>	<i>Sg</i>		<i>Sg/Sb</i>
	<i>Sf Ma</i>	<i>Sf Ma</i>	<i>Sf Ma</i>	<i>Sf Ma</i>	<i>Sf Ma</i>	<i>Sf Ma</i>	<i>Sf</i>	<i>Sf Ma</i>	<i>Sf Ma</i>	<i>Sf</i>	<i>Sf Ma</i>	<i>Sf</i>	<i>Sf</i>	<i>Sf</i>	<i>Sf</i>	<i>Sf</i>	<i>Sf</i>	<i>Sf</i>	<i>Sf</i>
	<i>Tg Tk</i>	<i>Tg Tk</i>	<i>Tg Tk</i>	<i>Tg</i>	<i>Tg</i>	<i>Tg Tk</i>	<i>Tg Tk</i>	<i>Tg</i>	<i>Tg</i>	<i>Tg</i>	<i>Tg</i>	<i>Tg</i>	<i>Th</i>	<i>Tg/Th</i>	<i>Tg</i>	<i>Th</i>	<i>Tg/Th</i>	<i>Th/Tg</i>	<i>Tg</i>
	<i>Nw Oc</i>	<i>Nw Oc</i>	<i>Nw Oc</i>	<i>Nw</i>	<i>Nw Oc</i>	<i>Nw</i>	<i>Nw Oc</i>	<i>Nw</i>		<i>Oc</i>	<i>Nw</i>			<i>Oc</i>				<i>Oc</i>	
	<b>Variables</b>																		
# S & A taxa <sup>b</sup>	22	21	21	17	16	18	16	17	15	12	16	6	9	8	6	8	6	7	7
Total # taxa <sup>b</sup>	25	23	23	19	17	21	17	19	18	13	19	9	12	10	9	11	9	9	10
Average annual rainfall in wettest isohyet (mm)	1730	2000	900	1400	1350	1000	1000	950	800	800	750	400	425	325	375	300	300	300	250

Cavernous ranges <sup>c</sup>	2	3	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	0	3	1	3	1	1	3	2	1	2
Riparian systems <sup>c</sup>	3	3	3	3	2	3	1	3	3	1	3	1	3	2	1	2	2	1	1
mangrove forest <sup>c</sup>	3	3	3	0	3	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
Mangal area (km <sup>2</sup> )	316	585	149	0	929	0	231	0	0	274	0	0	0	173	0	0	0	64	0
Average <i>AR</i>	6.75	6.69	6.69	6.70	6.70	6.82	6.81	6.70	6.86	6.89	6.80	6.92	6.95	7.00	7.15	7.03	7.10	7.17	7.17
lower <i>SE</i>	6.67	6.60	6.60	6.60	6.59	6.71	6.70	6.60	6.74	6.76	6.69	6.77	6.81	6.85	6.99	6.88	6.95	7.00	7.03
upper <i>SE</i>	6.84	6.78	6.78	6.81	6.82	6.92	6.93	6.81	6.97	7.03	6.91	7.07	7.09	7.15	7.31	7.17	7.25	7.33	7.31
Average <i>F</i> <sub>peak</sub> (kHz)	46.75	47.63	47.63	49.61	50.42	46.65	45.99	49.61	45.08	39.03	44.77	39.99	33.19	39.08	30.24	32.34	37.21	30.34	30.34
lower <i>SE</i>	44.11	44.94	44.94	46.54	47.06	43.69	42.70	46.54	41.96	36.47	41.96	36.17	31.08	35.12	27.85	30.14	33.17	27.96	28.28
upper <i>SE</i>	49.38	50.32	50.32	52.68	53.77	49.61	49.27	52.68	48.20	41.59	47.57	43.81	35.30	43.04	32.64	34.55	41.25	32.73	32.41
Average <i>m</i> <sub>bat</sub> (kg)	0.0136	0.0121	0.0121	0.0123	0.0121	0.0141	0.0134	0.0123	0.0143	0.0142	0.0137	0.0160	0.0166	0.0164	0.0183	0.0177	0.0171	0.0179	0.0179
lower <i>SE</i>	0.0125	0.0110	0.0110	0.0110	0.0107	0.0128	0.0120	0.0110	0.0130	0.0124	0.0124	0.0140	0.0147	0.0145	0.0161	0.0158	0.0151	0.0157	0.0160
upper <i>SE</i>	0.0148	0.0132	0.0132	0.0135	0.0135	0.0154	0.0149	0.0135	0.0157	0.0159	0.0150	0.0179	0.0185	0.0183	0.0206	0.0196	0.0191	0.0201	0.0198

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117 <sup>a</sup> included although known from landward edge of mangroves only.

118 <sup>b</sup> closely related allopatric con-generics occupying the same foraging niche were treated as a single taxa (e.g. *Vc/Vf*)

119 <sup>c</sup> 3, extensive or numerous in wettest part of bioregion; 2, only a few small areas in wettest part; 1, a few small but not in the wettest part; 0, none at all.

120 <sup>d</sup> *M. gigas* is excluded from this analysis (see Methods).